

Remarks/Arguments:

The pending claims are 1-11.

Applicants have filed an RCE. This is a Supplemental Amendment to the Amendment filed on July 13, 2004 and following the Advisory Action dated September 14, 2004.

The Advisory Action stated, in part, that the Amendment filed on July 13, 2004

raises possible indefiniteness issues under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph (for example, the score is updated in [step] g), but is not provided until [step] h.) It is also noted that step h) appears to consist of two separate steps.

This Supplemental Amendment amends claim 1 in order to correct a typographical error in claim 1 and to cure the Office's concern about possible indefiniteness. Specifically, the current amendment deletes the following phrase in claim 1: "to provide a score which indicates whether the object to be identified is present at a first position; and." As a result of this Supplemental Amendment deleting the typographical error, no issue of indefiniteness remains and no rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph should be made.

The Advisory Action also stated, in part, that the July 13, 2004 Amendment raised a possible new matter issue. More specifically, the Advisory Action stated that the phrase "updating a score" "may not have support in the original disclosure." Applicants respectfully disagree.

In fact, the updating a score feature is supported by the original disclosure with respect to Step 306 of Figure 3 and page 13, lines 12-14, and Step 906 of Figure 9 and page 17, line 23 to page 18, line 1.

In view of the amendments and remarks in the July 13, 2004 Amendment and in this Supplemental Amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-11 are in condition for

allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

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October 4, 2004

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